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Appln. No. 09/855,596 Amendment dated: June 30, 2004 Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-8 canceled

Claim 9 (currently amended): A method of communicating between a user terminal and a control system controlling at least one optical device, the method comprising:

- a) creating a datagram at a source, said datagram having:
 - a source address field;
 - a source field denoting an address of a source optical device;
 - a destination field denoting an address of a destination optical device;
 - a system overhead field containing data; a
 - command field containing an indication of at least one step to be
 - executed regarding said data
- b) transmitting said datagram to a destination
- c) extracting said data at said source
- ffe) d) initiating said at least one step

wherein said datagram is used internally by said control system to communicate between different modules in said control system.

Claim 10 (original): A datagram for use in communicating between a user terminal and a control system controlling at least one optical device, said datagram containing:

- a source address field;
- a source field denoting an address of a source optical device;

Page 2 of 5

Appln. No. 09/855,596 Amendment dated: June 30, 2004 Reply to Office Action of April 6, 2004

- a destination field denoting an address of a destination optical device;
- a system overhead field containing data;
- a command field containing an indication of at least one step to be executed regarding said data

wherein said datagram is used internally by said control system to communicate between different modules in said control system.

Claim 11 (original): A communications signal transmitted between a user terminal and a control system for controlling at least one optical device, said signal having encoded thereon a datagram containing:

- a source address field;
- a source field denoting an address of a source optical device;
- a destination field denoting an address of a destination optical device;
- a system overhead field containing data;
- a command field containing an indication of at least one step to be executed regarding said data.